

## Did you know...



Early literacy is what children know about reading and writing *before* they actually learn to read and write. Helping your child develop early literacy skills will build a foundation for reading so that when they are taught to read they are ready.

This monthly newsletter will help you become more familiar with early literacy skills and contains tips and activities you can try at home with your child. *The Bookworm* is published monthly for three age groups: Babies and Toddlers, Preschool (3-5), and Kindergarten. You can find more *Bookworms*, as well as versions in Spanish, at

<http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/bookworm>.

## Here's how...

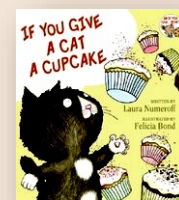


- ✦ Choose a quiet spot for you and your child to read aloud 15 – 20 minutes each day.
- ✦ Keep books and other reading materials where your child can reach them.
- ✦ Take books and writing supplies with you when you leave home so that your child can read and write wherever you go.
- ✦ Share rhymes and songs that young children enjoy. Keeping books fun will keep them coming back for more.
- ✦ Show your child how you read every day for fun and work (novels, newspapers, magazines, etc.).
- ✦ Visit the library or bookstore with your child to attend storytimes and choose books to read at home.

## Read



### ***If You Give a Cat a Cupcake*, by Laura Numeroff**



If you give a cat a cupcake, he'll ask for some sprinkles to go with it. When you give him the sprinkles, he might spill some on the floor. Cleaning up will make him hot, so you'll give him a bathing suit... and that's just the beginning!

This is a fun book to read aloud to your child again and again.

*También disponible en Español*

## Choosing Books



### **More books by author Laura Numeroff**



*If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* (También disponible en Español)

*If You Give a Moose a Muffin*

*The Best Mouse Cookie*

*Beatrice Doesn't Want To*

*Laura Numeroff's 10-Step Guide to Living with Your Monster*

*What Mommies Do Best/ What Daddies Do Best*

*Dogs Don't Wear Sneakers*

To find more Laura Numeroff books, as well as activities and information about the author, visit

[www.lauranumeroff.com](http://www.lauranumeroff.com)



## Talk



Make cupcakes or another treat with your child. Look at the recipe together. Talk about the directions you need to follow and the ingredients you need to gather. When you talk with your child about what you are doing and why, you are helping her build early literacy skills.

## Write



In order to be able to make the fine lines of letters later on, children must develop the tiny muscles in their fingers. Draw several simple cupcake shapes on paper. With crayons or markers let your child decorate them with frosting and sprinkles. Encourage big swirls, little swirls, circles, lines, dots, zig zags, etc.



## Play



### Action Rhyme Making Cupcakes

I am making cupcakes (*point to self*).

'Round and 'round the beaters go  
(*move hands in circles*).

Add some flour from a cup  
(*pretend to pour*),

Stir and mix the batter up (*pretend to stir*).

Put the papers in the tin  
(*pretend to put cupcake papers in tin*),

Carefully pour the batter in  
(*pretend to pour batter in papers*).

Bake them, frost them, 1,2,3  
(*pretend to decorate cupcakes*),

Then serve them to my friends for tea  
(*pretend to pass cupcakes around*).



## Sing



### The Muffin Man

Oh, do you know the muffin man,  
The muffin man, the muffin man,  
Oh, do you know the muffin man,  
That lives on Drury Lane?  
Oh, yes, I know the muffin man,  
The muffin man, the muffin man,  
Oh, yes, I know the muffin man,  
That lives on Drury Lane.

*For fun, change "muffin" to "cupcake" and use your own street name.*

Hear this song at:

<http://bussongs.com/songs/the-muffin-man.php>



## At your library...



Your library offers many free resources to help you build your child's early literacy skills: age-appropriate books, music CDs, storytimes, parent workshops, booklists, take-home information, and events for the whole family!